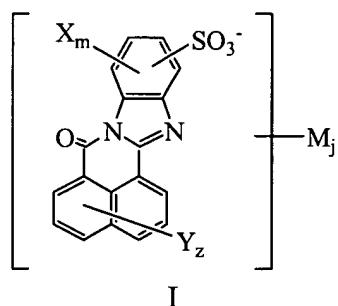


AMENDMENT

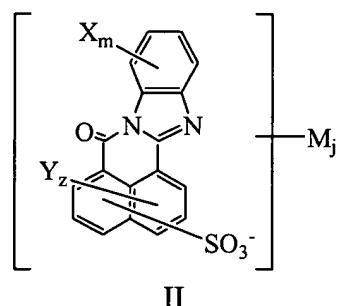
In the Specification

Please delete and replace the following paragraphs:

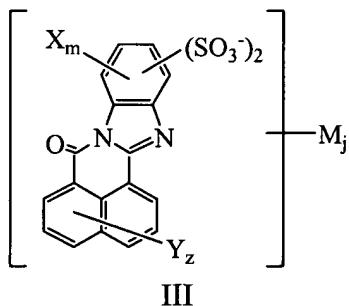
[Page 5, line 20 to Page 6, end]: In a further embodiment of the present invention, 1,8-~~N~~naphthoylene-1',2'-benzimidazole sulfoderivatives are provided wherein the structural formula is chosen from the group consisting of structures I-VIII, wherein X and Y are individually selected from the group consisting of CH₃, C₂H₅, OCH₃, OC₂H₅, Cl, Br, OH, or NH₂:



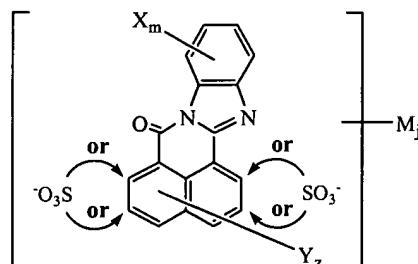
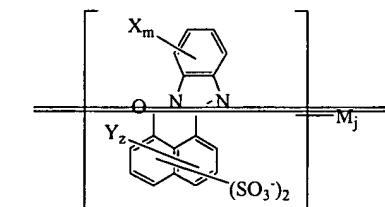
where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 3, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4.



where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 4, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4.

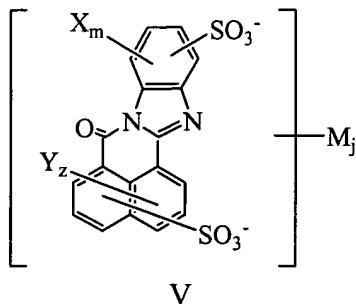


where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 2, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4.



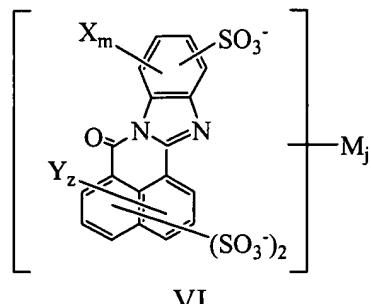
IV

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 4, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;



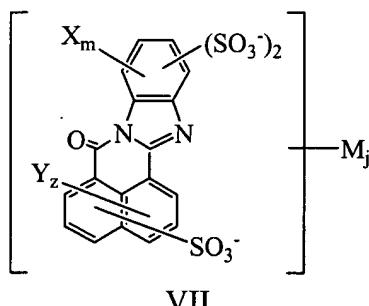
V

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 3, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;
4.5:



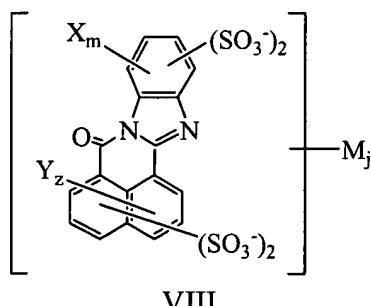
VI

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 3, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;



VII

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 2, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;
4.5:



VIII

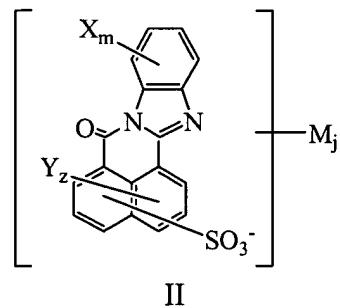
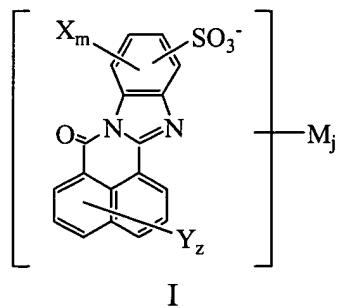
where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 2, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;

[Page 9, lines 8 – 11]:

The 1,8-naphthylene-1',2'-benzimidazole

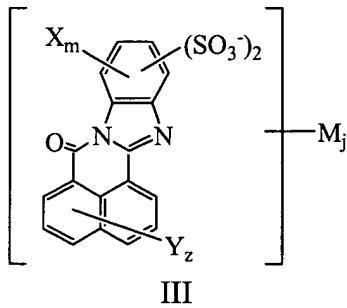
~~sulfoderivative~~, water-soluble sulfoderivative compounds of the present invention are a novel improvement over previously disclosed materials used in the formation of anisotropic films. Compounds according to the disclosed invention are generally described by the structural formula:

[Page 9, line 17 to Page 10, end]: M is a counterion; and j is the number of counterions in a dye molecule, which may be fractional if the counterion is shared among several molecules (for n>1, different counterions can be involved). Compounds described by general formula D include a number of structures that differ, for example, in the number and position of sulfonic groups and other substituents. Structures I-VIII below are exemplary, more specific embodiments of 1,8-Nnaphthylene-1',2'-benzimidazole sulfoderivatives of the general formula D according to the present invention. These examples are not intended to restrict the scope of the present invention in any way:[.]

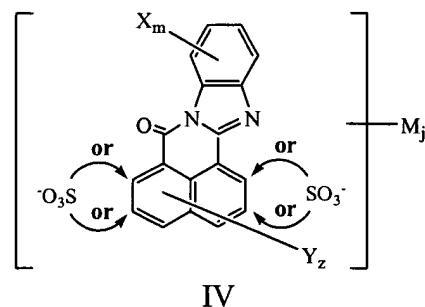
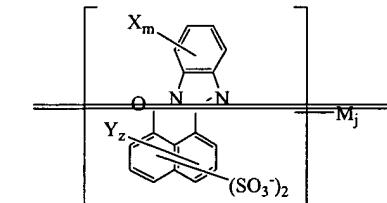


where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 3, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4 6;

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 4, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4 5:

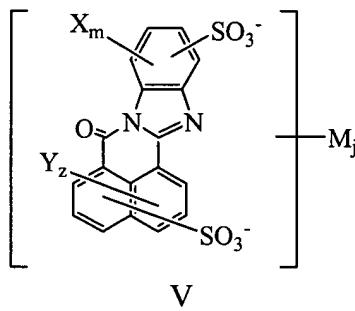


where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 2, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4 6;



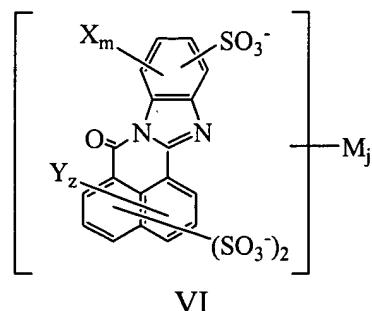
where m is an integer in the range of 0 to

4, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;



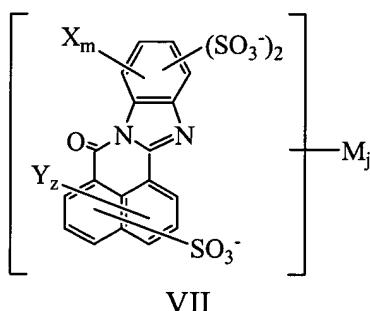
V

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 3, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;
4.5;



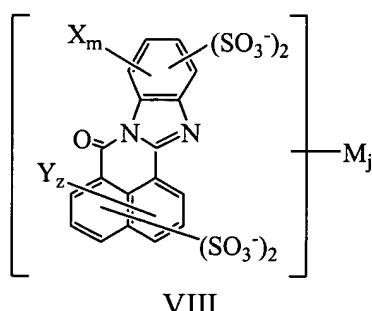
VI

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 3, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;



VII

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 2, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;
4.5;



VIII

where m is an integer in the range of 0 to 2, and z is an integer in the range of 0 to 4;

[Page 20, lines 5 – 6]:

• Mass spectrum (VISION 2000, negative

reflection mode) measured m/z = 509.1506.1; calculated value was 510.48.

[Page 20, lines 15 – 16]:

Synthesis of 1,8-naphthylene-1',2'-benzimidazole-6'-sulfonic acid via condensation of ortho-phenylenediamine and 3-sulfonaphthalic acid anhydride.